Constitution of Heritage Site Commission

166. SHRI M.V. MYSURA REDDY: Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have decided to constitute a Heritage Site Commission in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the details of terms and conditions laid dovlm by Government;

(c) whether any financial allocation has been made by Government in this regard; and

(d) the time-frame by when the recommendations of the Commission are likely to be available?

THE MINISTER OF CULTURE (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. As the present legal and institutional framework is not adequate to address the documentation, inventorisation and conservation of built heritage in its broadest outline, Government has proposed to constitute a Heritage Sites Commission. The Commission would lay down broad policy guidelines and take steps to ensure that such guidelines are observed.

The functions of the proposed Heritage Sites Commission would include:

— tender advice to Government on heritage matters.

— frame guidelines in the matter of conservation of heritage monuments and sites.

— study or cause to study important matters regarding conservation of heritage and submit reports to the Government.

— suggest appropriate amendments to the existing heritage legislations.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) No time frame can be indicated at this stage.